

Mathematics and Computer Science Department Meeting Minutes

04/10/2015

61-2316

Present: D. Beydler, A. Birca, D. Chavez, S. Childress, C. Graham, S. Guth, M. Johnson, K. Khoddam, C. Kim, A. Kirchgraber, T. Kojima, S. Lancaster, P. Lee, R. Loyd, J. McMullin, M. Munro, B. Nguyen, A. Nitta (Chair), H. Parra, C. Perez, H. Pop, D. Rivers, Jim Smith, M. Summers, C. Sun, J. Tamayo, J. Terreri, F. Tran, C. Troxell, T. Vo, J. Wakefield, P. Young, S. Zicree

Absent: J. Sholars, V. Tatoian, H. Griffith, T. Takashima,

The meeting began at 2:53.

Old Business

- 1) **March 2015 Minutes:** The March 2015 minutes were approved by acclamation.

New Business

- 0) **Basic Skills Committee:** Janet agreed to replace Matt Munro on the basic skills committee. Motion to approve this passed by acclamation.
- 1) **Updated course outline for Math 51: Jeff:** We just voted on the top three books, to select our new Math 51 textbook. From these we chose the Messersmith. The vote was 7 to 3 to 1 for Messersmith, Carson, and Lial. Here is the outline.
Joe: this gives us a break from having word problems so soon.
Paula: what was the issue in terms of cost?
Jeff: that depends on what we order. We need to decide on paperback vs hardback, etc.
Michelle: we (the bookstore committee) will handle this – no need to have the department decide on it.
Jeff: here's an issue that was raised: a couple of part-timers wondered if they could continue using MyMathLab, and use a Pearson book. So what we are proposing is to let part-timers use an alternate outline, if a full-timer has already submitted the outline, and the textbook committee and the department have already approved it. Discussion followed, regarding the pros and cons of a part-timers being able to use an alternate outline proposed by a full-timer. A motion from Jeff, with friendly amendments, stated that adjunct faculty with rehire rights may use an approved alternate textbook. Motion did not pass, 8 to 20, with 2 abstentions.

- 2) **Math 110 SLO Update: Stephen:** We gave the statistics students three questions on the Fall final exam, in order to measure SLOs. About 80% of students got full credit on the first question, and about 85% got full credit on the next two. Then there was a fourth question where students were asked to complete a full hypothesis test. About 35% got full credit on this one. But there are still issues with how to interpret the meaning of these numbers. Michelle: we tried a similar question last semester but used the word 'majority.' This time we used the phrase 'more than 50%' and got much better results.
- 3) **Elections for the Scheduling Committee: Kambiz:** I'm happy to announce Debbie Rivers as our next scheduling committee member. Department congratulates Debbie.
- 4) **Report from Counseling: Jim Smith:** We have a new computer lab. We got a bank of 65 computer stations. We have three designated classrooms for the counseling department. We will get seven new counselors. Last year we had 2 counselor positions that went unfilled. Cameron: are the computer stations consistently occupied?
Jim: we have 3 or 4 orientations during the semester, but otherwise no.
David: Can the computer stations be used for the placement test information sessions?
Jim: I will ask the department and get back to you.
- 5) **Math 70S/110S Issues: Scott:** Allow me to add this item first. If you teach Calculus, we are proposing to lower Math 181 to 4 units, and remove the linear equations prerequisite for the Math 290 differential equations course.

Here is the outline for Math 70S and Math 110S. Discussion followed on the number of hours of algebra in the 70S outline. Motion to approve the 70S outline passed, with one dissenting vote. Motion to approve the 110S outline passed by acclamation.

- 6) **Bridge and Pathways Scheduling: Matt:** Here is a handout showing the success rates in the pathways courses. Basically we accomplished twice as much in 6 months as regular classes did in twice the time. We are still getting comparative data back from the research dept. On the back are the 2016 Winter and Spring Bridge and Pathways offerings. Please contact me if you are interested in teaching these classes. Jeff has agreed to take over the scheduling for Pathways and Bridge from Summer 2016 into Spring 2017, while I am on banked leave.
- 7) **Classroom Procedures: Melody:** I'm seeing some things in the classrooms I'm teaching in. I'm seeing stacks of worksheets that are left in the rooms, along with leftover homework. I think it's making the rooms look somewhat trashy. Perhaps we could put an email out there to let people know to not leave papers in the room.
Heidi: maybe this could be sent out as an email to all full and part timers.
Art: I will compose an email, run it by Melody, then send it out to all Math faculty.

- 8) **Issue with Student Writing on Classroom Walls: Joe:** Here are some pictures that the head custodian sent me, showing writing on the walls of some classrooms. (Pictures display graffiti-type writing on the side walls and counters.) Discussion followed about how to best address this issue. Keeping students out of unsupervised classrooms was mentioned, as well as the level of maintenance of the classrooms.
- 9) **LERN 48/LERN 49: Debbie:** I'd like to have a dialogue with LERN. In a Math 50 course, the ones that test in are doing remarkably better than the ones coming from LERN. LERN 48 and LERN 49 cover a lot of the topics we do in Math 50, like decimals and fractions. But after reading through some of their sample assignments I'm having some concerns about the LERN students' readiness for Math 50.
Janet: I agree, in my experience teaching Math 50 in the Pathways courses, they are not prepared. But I think they're fine.
Discussion followed about how much algebra content should be in Math 50.
- 10) **Volunteer Needed for Content Review Committee: Stephen:** I need someone to take my place on the Content Review Committee. They meet every other week, on Wednesdays at 3 PM. Our school is mandated by the state to evaluate Math and English requirements for courses. Most schools are ignoring this. Can anyone take over for me? No response at this point.

Reports

- 1) **ACADEMIC SENATE: Melody:** We don't have a Math person on Ed Design. We haven't for a while, since Joan left. We need a math person on this committee. When we didn't, Psych 10 happened. For everything else, read the report.
- 2) **FACULTY ASSOCIATION: Stephen:** Remember to attend Puttin' on the Hits. The Powers That Be want to tweak the mission statement. An agreement was reached with the 2016-2017 calendar. Summer session in 2017 will start on a Thursday.
Al: this is so that they can count the growth towards a certain year. Some discussion about a pilot program for student to complete their teacher evaluations online.
Stephen: Joan asked me to mention that FA scholarship applications are now available.
Michelle: they have these forms in the Division office. This application is on paper.
- 3) **DEPARTMENT CHAIR: Art:** Let me know what equipment you need purchased. I will be preparing the 2014-2015 PIE Report.

DIVISION REPORT: Art: Now that we have the SLOs sorted out, we need program level outcomes. Because we have a degree, PLOs will need to be done. The biology dept will be resubmitting a proposal for a Bachelors degree in Histotech. If approved, it will be the sixth BA program in the U.S. and the first on the West Coast. Kudos to them for filling a need that had gone unfilled.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 pm

Submitted by:

Department Chair
Art Nitta

Recorder
Cameron Troxell